JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

Bush nominates Gen. Peter Pace

President Bush last Friday nominated a Teaneck High School graduate, Marine Gen. Peter Pace, to be the next chairman of the U.S. military's Joint Chiefs of Staff. Bush announced in a Roosevelt Room ceremony at the White House that if confirmed by the Senate, Pace, 59, would succeed Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, whose retirement is set for Sept. 30.

Pace, whom Pentagon officials say has played a key role in the war on terrorism, has been vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. "He knows the job well," Bush said of the prestigious Teaneck native. "To the American people, the Marine is shorthand for can-do, and I'm counting on Pete Pace to bring the Marine spirit to these new responsibilities."

Pace was born in Brooklyn but raised in Teaneck where he graduated high school in 1963. A 1967 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, he holds a master's degree in business administration from George Washington University. He also attended Harvard University for the Senior Executives in National and International Security program.

Persian Gulf War veteran, Pace served as a rifle platoon leader in Vietnam from 1968 to 1969 but returned "without a scratch." He also served in Korea in 1967 and as deputy commander of Marine Forces and deputy commander of the Joint Task Force in Somalia between 1992 and 1994.

From 1997 to 2000 Pace served as the commander of U.S. Marine Corps Forces in the Atlantic, Europe and South. He was promoted to general in 2000 and served as the commander in chief of the United States Southern Command until he became vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Pace returned to Teaneck in May 2003 to speak at the township's Memorial Day Celebration. "This town gave me and my family many gifts, all the things that we take for granted," he said to a large crowd. "I'm deeply honored to have been asked to serve the United States for another four years and represent America as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff."

STAFF PHOTOS BY DANIELLE P. RICHARDS/THEn RECORD

POLICE

Officers move up ladder

The township police department last week promoted three of its officers to senior ranks. Detective Lt. Diane Mancini will be promoted to captain, Sgt. Mark Distler to lieutenant and Det. Harry Harrison to sergeant.

FILM FESTIVAL

Puffin show world works

The recent Black Maria Film Festival showcased cutting-edge works from independent film and video makers around the world. The weekend event marked the third time the festival stopped at the Puffin Cultural Forum.
MILITARY SUPPORT

‘Day of Dedication’ is set for May 1

With the help of a few former marines, the Borough of Saddle River will be sponsoring a Day of Dedication to show support for U.S. troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. Sunday, May 1 at 1 p.m. in front of the municipal building, 100 East Allendale Road. All are invited to participate.

General Al Gray, 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, will be the guest speaker and Saddle River Mayor Conrad S. Caruso will be on hand to introduce him and other speakers.

The 25th Marines at Picatinny Arsenal will provide a Color Guard and the 199th Army Band from New York State will perform. A professional singer will perform a medley of patriotic songs.

PACE
FROM PAGE 1

A crowd of nearly 300, Mayor Jacqueline Kates, with whom Pace graduated from high school, expressed her full-fledged confidence in Pace in his ascension to the nation’s top military post.

“I am absolutely delighted that the president has nominated General Pace for this position. It brings great honor to our community,” said Kates, who added that when Pace returned to Teaneck in 2003, he said there was no other place in the world where he could have had a better upbringing.

At the White House ceremony, Pace said that attaining the president’s nomination was an “incredible moment” for him, but that he knew “formidable” challenges lay ahead. According to a Reuters’ newswire, Pace will face “daunting problems at the Pentagon as U.S. budget deficits clash with the rising cost of wargships, fighter ships and other high-tech programs planned to replace aging Cold War weaponry.”

Bush nominated Navy Adm. Edmund Giambastiani to replace Pace as vice chairman.

Joseph Pompe’s e-mail address is pompeo@northjersey.com

RUBENSTEIN
FROM PAGE 11

bodies. It isn’t pretty.

Personally, I abandoned sleeveless shirts and dresses years ago, about the time I gave away my beige linen dress with the red cummerbund. I do carry a photo of myself in it, which was easily several sizes ago, but I’m reluctant to show it unless I’m primed for the “Oh my God, is that YOU?” response it evokes.

I’ve also begun to wear long sleeves even when it’s hot outdoors and most often wear long khaki pants, not shorts.

In my case – a “people who live in glass houses shouldn’t throw stones” category – I’ve acknowledged my appearance. I just haven’t joined a 12-step program to change it.

You’d think that a person so observant of disgusting, pasty, protruding excess flesh would be shaped. Here, obviously, it is not.

SHEPHERD
FROM PAGE 10

raised my hand and waved it around, however, the teacher always picked someone else who looked scared.

So when this column appears the week after next, we’ll all be wearing shorts and slathering ourselves with sun lotion. Trust me. You can count on it.

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